



**STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY**

**1150 FOSTER AVENUE  
NASHVILLE, TN 37243**

**BILL HASLAM  
GOVERNOR**

**BILL GIBBONS  
COMMISSIONER**

August 29, 2012

Roberto Mussenden  
Public Safety Homeland Security Bureau  
Federal Communications Commission

RE: Update on State of Tennessee Highway Patrol Waiver Request

Dear Sir,

On December 9, 2011 the State of Tennessee Highway Patrol (THP) submitted a waiver request concerning the January 1, 2013 Narrowbanding deadline. I would like to update you on some important advancements that have occurred since that date.

During the latest Legislative session the State of Tennessee Legislature appropriated an additional \$80 Million for the continued expansion of the P25 Statewide Narrowbanding/Interoperability project. This appropriation funds Phase 2 of the project with the completion statewide of the system currently scheduled for the fourth quarter of 2015.

The THP budgeted a new position to oversee the development and management of the new P25 system and the Narrowbanding deadlines that are looming. In mid-July I was employed to be the Wireless Communications Director.

Since I have been onboard we have diligently searched ways to reduce the time needed for a waiver for the narrowbanding deadline. We have met with vendors of equipment that the THP currently owns and new information has been discovered that will allow us to complete the narrowbanding process in a shorter timeline. We will be able to operate on our current system temporarily until the new P25 system is fully implemented statewide.

As a result of this information and the increased funding levels for the new system we are requesting that the Federal Communications Commission approve our waiver request for an additional 12 months until January 1, 2014 instead of the original 36 months previously requested. This additional 12 months would allow us to do an orderly transition to narrowband frequencies.

Sincerely,

Arnold Hooper  
Wireless Communications Director  
TN Department of Safety

Cc: Lt. Colonel Dereck Stewart  
Captain Tim Dover